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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 704  
By Ridgeway

A RESOLUTION to express appreciation to the Tennessee Congressional Delegation for securing public bus and rail funding, and to urge the Delegation to secure future funding for public transportation.

WHEREAS, the shared mission of the Tennessee General Assembly, the Tennessee Department of Transportation, and the Tennessee Public Transportation Association is to plan, implement, maintain, and manage a balanced transportation system for the movement of the State's citizens, with an emphasis on quality, safety, efficiency and environmental stewardship; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee continues to be one of only five states that provides public transportation services in every county in the state; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee public transportation systems provided over 29 million passenger trips last year from Mountain City to Memphis; and

WHEREAS, over 40 million vehicle miles were logged by Tennessee public transportation providers last year; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee needs to secure funding to replace older vehicles and facilities in order to maintain a safe, reliable, and efficient public transportation fleet; and

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WHEREAS, the primary source of funding to replace older public transportation vehicles and upgrade transit facilities comes from the federal government through Section 5309 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (commonly known as TEA-21), with such section providing capital funding for both bus and rail equipment and facilities; and

WHEREAS, these federal bus and rail capital funds may only be secured by having specific projects designated by Congress; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's neighboring states received an average allocation from Congress of \$12.8 million last year and nearly \$12 million average over the last four years in bus funds; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee averaged only \$2 million for the three years prior to last year but secured a very significant increase to \$10 million in fiscal year 2002 in bus funds; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee continues to require a level of funding equal to or greater than that received last year so as to replace outmoded vehicles and facilities; and

WHEREAS, approved plans for the development of rail public transportation systems in Memphis and Nashville require continued federal capital funding; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That the Tennessee General Assembly hereby expresses its appreciation for the efforts of the Tennessee Congressional Delegation in securing bus and rail funds from Section 5309 of TEA-21 in fiscal year 2002.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Tennessee General Assembly hereby urges the Tennessee Congressional Delegation to assist Tennessee in obtaining \$35,710,700 of Section 5309 federal funds for bus vehicles and equipment, such funds to be earmarked for the following projects:

Nashville	\$ 6,100,000	Buses
Knoxville	\$10,500,000	Buses and Downtown Intermodel Center

Chattanooga	\$ 4,500,000	Bus and facility upgrade
Memphis	\$ 2,300,000	Buses
Clarksville	\$ 500,000	2 Buses
Jackson	\$ 1,470,000	Buses and facility upgrade
Johnson City	\$ 500,000	2 Buses
Kingsport	\$ 500,000	2 Buses
Pigeon Forge	\$ 1,550,000	Trolleys
Gatlinburg	\$ 1,550,000	Trolleys
First Tennessee HRA	\$ 936,000	Radios, 10 lift-equipped vans, computer equipment
East Tennessee HRA	\$ 800,000	Paratransit vehicles, radio equipment, computer equipment
Southeast Tenn. HRA	\$ 575,000	Buses, paratransit vehicles, radio equipment
Southcentral DD	\$ 352,000	All new radio equipment
Southwest Tenn. HRA	\$ 337,000	Radios and maintenance equipment

Northwest Tenn. HRA	\$ 1,224,000	16 wheelchair lift vans, 18 15-passenger vans, van tracking and data collection system
Mid Cumberland HRA	\$ 395,000	Computer, software and 10 paratransit vehicles
Upper Cumberland HRA	\$ 1,011,900	Vans, buses, radios, GPS route scheduler, wash bay
Memphis Delta HRA	\$ 158,000	paratransit vehicles
Hamilton County RT	\$ 47,000	Buses
Hancock County RT	\$ 64,800	2 paratransit vehicles
Knoxville CAC	\$ 170,000	5 paratransit vehicles
STS	\$ 170,000	5 paratransit vehicles

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Tennessee General Assembly hereby urges the Tennessee Congressional Delegation to assist Tennessee in obtaining \$22,350,000 of Section 5309 federal funds for rail projects, such funds to be earmarked for the following projects:

Memphis	\$ 4,350,000	Airport rail extension
Nashville RTA	\$ 15,000,000	Construction of East Corridor
		Commuter Rail-Davidson and Williamson Counties
	\$ 3,000,000	Preliminary engineering studies for Sumner, Rutherford, Williamson, West Davidson and Cheatham Counties

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an enrolled copy of this resolution be transmitted to each member of Tennessee's Congressional delegation with this final resolving clause deleted from such copy.